

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00701 251433Z

45

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

OMB-01 /055 W

----- 089677

P R 251350Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6959

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 0701

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO, US

SUBJ: ALLEGED STATEMENTS BY CONGEN COMMERCIAL OFFICER

1. LOCAL ARABIC PRESS OF LAST WEEK AND ISRAELI PRESS AND RADIO IN PAST TWO DAYS HAVE GIVEN CERTAIN ATTENTION TO DISTORTED VERSIONS OF MEETING WHICH CONGEN COMMERCIAL OFFICER NASTOFF HELD ON MARCH 18 WITH RAMALLAH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. DIFFERENT PAPERS HAVE HAD QUITE DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF NASTOFF'S ALLEGED COMMENTS, BUT ALL TEND TO INDICATE AN ASSERTION ON HIS PART THAT WEST BANK WAS CONSIDERED BY U.S. TO SEPARATE ENTITY FOR TRADE AND COMMERCIAL PRUPOSES. STORIES APPARENTLY EMANATED FROM MEMBERS OF RAMALLAH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

2. NEEDLESS TO SAY, NASTOFF DID NOT MAKE STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM AND IN NO WAY ALLUDED TO SEPARATE STATUS OF WEST BANK. MEETING WAS ONE OF SEVERAL WHICH HE HAS HELD WITH VARIOUS CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OVER PAST MONTHS TO EXPLAIN SERVICES OFFERED BY COMMERCIAL OFFICE OF CONGEN. IN ANSWER TO ONE QUESTION FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBER, NASTOFF SAID TRADE OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM PROVIDES SERVICE BY PLACING POTENTIAL PURCHASER OR REPRESENTATIVE ABROAD IN TOUCH WITH APPROPRIATE FIRMS IN U.S. HE ALSO SUGGESTED IN ANSWER TO QUESTION THAT LOCAL FIRMS MIGHT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 JERUSA 00701 251433Z

WANT TO FIND WAYS TO DISPLAY THEIR PRODUCTS IN U.S. IF THEY

WISHED MARKET THEM THERE. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION BY HIS LISTENERS. OUR OWN ARABIC TRANSLATOR BEING UNAVAILABLE THAT DAY, NASTOFF WAS DEPENDENT ON INTERPRETER OF CHAMBER.

3. SEVERAL ISRAELI JOURNALISTS CONTACTED US ABOUT STORY, AND WE DENIED ALLEGED STATEMENTS AND SPECULATED PART OF DIFFICULTY MIGHT HAVE BEEN DUE TO TRANSLATION.

4. COMMENT: IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT MEMBERS OF RAMALLAH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DELIBERATELY ELABORATED ON NASTOFF'S STATEMENTS, SINCE ARABS LOSE NO OPPORTUNITY TO STICK AN AMERICAN FINGER IN THE ISRAELI EYE. IN ADDITION, NASTOFF HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT MORE ACTIVE THAN HIS PREDECESSOR IN DRUMMING UP BUSINESS FOR U.S. FIRMS, AND ANY CHANGE IN OUR PATTERN OF ACTIVITY ON WEST BANK TENDS TO LEAD TO SPECULATION. RAMALLAH VISIT WAS LAST OF OUR MEETINGS OF THIS KIND AND PUBLIC INTEREST IN HIS ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED THEREFORE TO ABATE.
DAY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WEST BANK, ALLEGATIONS, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JERUSA00701
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750103-1122
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750319/aaaaaqoz.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <01 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED STATEMENTS BY CONGEN COMMERCIAL OFFICER
TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006